

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A footwear donning device, comprising:
  - 2 a carriage for holding the footwear;
  - 3 a fore handle coupled to the carriage, wherein the fore handle is flexible; and
  - 4 a handle coupled to the fore handle for donning the footwear.
- 1 2. The device of claim 1, wherein the carriage includes a carrier plate having a pair of opposing  
2 sides extending beyond the fore handle and a rounded end opposite the fore handle.
- 1 3. The device of claim 2, wherein the opposing sides are about 4 inches apart.
- 1 4. The device of claim 2, wherein the carrier plate extends beyond the fore handle by at most  
2 approximately 2.5 inches.
- 1 5. The device of claim 2, wherein the carriage further includes a pair of opposing hook lobes.
- 1 6. The device of claim 5, wherein the carriage further includes:
  - 2 a pair of stems, wherein each stem is located proximate a hook lobe; and
  - 3 a pair of yokes, wherein each yoke is adjacent to a stem and adjacent to the fore handle.

1 7. The device of claim 5, wherein the carriage further includes a pair of opposing joints, wherein  
2 each joint attaches a hook lobe to an opposing side of the carrier plate.

1 8. The device of claim 7, wherein each hook lobe includes:

2 a curved portion; and

3 a rounded portion extending beyond the joint and toward the fore handle.

1 9. The device of claim 7, wherein each joint is flexible.

1 10. The device of claim 7, wherein each joint is less than approximately 0.75 inches long.

1 11. The device of claim 1, further comprising a horn coupled to the handle for assisting in  
2 removing footwear.

1 12. The device of claim 11, wherein the horn includes a snare.

1 13. The device of claim 11, wherein the horn further assists in donning a shoe.

1 14. The device of claim 1, further comprising a hole for storing the device.

1 15. The device of claim 1, wherein the fore handle has a length of about 9 inches.

- 1 16. The device of claim 1, having a length of about 28 inches.
- 1 17. The device of claim 1, wherein the handle is graduated to about a 10 degree oval.
- 1 18. The device of claim 1, wherein the carriage, the fore handle and the handle comprise a single  
2 molded unit.
- 1 19. The device of claim 18, comprising of one of the group consisting of polypropylene and a  
2 composite plastic.

1 20. A device for donning and removing a sock, comprising:

2 a handle for donning the sock;

3 a fore handle coupled to the handle, wherein the fore handle is flexible;

4 a carriage for holding the sock during donning, wherein the carriage is coupled to the fore  
5 handle; and

6 a horn for removing the sock coupled to the handle opposite the fore handle.

1 21. The device of claim 20, further comprising a hole for storing the device.

2 22. The device of claim 21, wherein the hole is located on the handle proximate the horn.

3 23. The device of claim 20, wherein the horn further assists in donning a shoe.

4 24. The device of claim 20, wherein the carriage includes:

5 a carrier plate having a pair of opposite sides extending beyond the fore handle and a  
6 rounded end located opposite the fore handle;

7 a pair of hook lobes, each hook lobe forming an obtuse angle with a side of the carrier  
8 plate; and

9 a pair of joints, each joint attaching a portion of a hook lobe to a side of the carrier plate.

1 25. The device of claim 24, wherein the carriage further includes:

2 a pair of stems, each stem proximate a hook lobe; and

a pair of yokes, each yoke adjacent a stem and the fore handle.

1 26. A footwear donning device, comprising:

2 a carriage for holding the footwear, the carriage including:

3 a carrier plate having a pair of opposing sides and a rounded end;

4 a pair of hook lobes, each hook lobe attached to a side of the carrier plate using a  
5 flexible joint;

6 a pair of stems attached to the carrier plate opposite the rounded end, wherein  
7 each stem is located proximate a hook lobe; and

8 a pair of yokes, wherein each yoke is located adjacent a stem;

9 a fore handle attached to the carriage, wherein each yoke is further adjacent the fore  
10 handle; and

11 a handle attached to the fore handle for donning the footwear.

1 27. The device of claim 26, wherein the fore handle is flexible.

1 28. The device of claim 26, wherein each hook lobe includes a rounded portion extending  
2 beyond the joint and toward the fore handle.

1 29. The device of claim 26, further comprising a horn extending beyond the handle.

1 30. The device of claim 26, wherein the handle includes a hole located opposite the fore handle  
2 for storing the device.